

University of Glasgow.

Chair of Practice of Medicine.

TESTIMONIALS

IN FAVOUR OF

GEORGE S. MIDDLETON

M.A. ABERDEEN, M.D. GLASGOW, F.F.P.S.G.

ASSISTANT TO THE PROFESSOR OF PRACTICE OF MEDICINE IN THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW, 1880-1893; CHEF-DE-CLINIQUE IN PROFESSOR GAIRDNER'S WARDS IN THE WESTERN INFIRMARY, 1880-1892; ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN TO GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY, 1882-1889; ASSISTANT PHYSICIAN TO THE ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN, 1885-1898; PHYSICIAN TO THE GLASGOW ROYAL INFIRMARY SINCE 1892; PHYSICIAN TO THE ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN SINCE 1898; PRESIDENT OF THE GLASGOW MEDICO-CHIRURGICAL SOCIETY, 1897-1899; EDITOR OF "GLASGOW HOSPITAL REPORTS," 1898, 1899.

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*TO THE RIGHT HONOURABLE
THE LORD BALFOUR OF BURLEIGH,
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SCOTLAND.*

MY LORD,

I beg to offer myself as a Candidate for the Chair of Practice of Medicine about to become vacant in the University of Glasgow.

Born in Aberdeen in 1853, I received my education in that city, passed through the Arts Curriculum in the University there, and took the Degree of Master of Arts, with Honours in Mathematics, in 1872. I studied Medicine in the University of Glasgow, graduated as Bachelor of Medicine, with Honours, in 1876, and proceeded to the Degree of Doctor of Medicine in 1884, receiving for my Thesis the highest distinction which the University awarded.

Having spent three years as resident physician in the general and fever hospitals in Glasgow with the object of acquiring a practical acquaintance with my profession, I commenced practice here in 1879, and since that date have been engaged in hospital work and in the teaching of Medicine.

For thirteen years I was Assistant to Professor Gairdner in the University and at the Western Infirmary. In that capacity every winter session I conducted tutorial classes in connection with his class of Practice of Medicine, assisted him in all the work of the class examinations, and performed the duties of the Chair in his absence.

From 1880 to 1892, during the summer sessions, I carried on a class in Practice of Medicine, which, though quite optional, had for many years an average attendance of over fifty senior students.

In addition to the large experience of Clinical Medicine gained with Professor Gairdner in the Western Infirmary, I have had ample opportunities for independent work in the Royal Infirmary, where I acted as Assistant-Physician from 1882 to 1889, and where I have been Visiting Physician and Lecturer on Clinical Medicine since 1892.

I have also been on the staff of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children since 1885, and Visiting Physician there since 1898.

In addition to this purely medical work, I have paid considerable attention to Pathology, having carried on investigations in the laboratories of both the Royal and the Western Infirmaries, the results of which have been published in various papers. A list of these and of various contributions to the literature of Medicine and Clinical Medicine is appended. I may add that for more than ten years I was a frequent contributor of reviews and translations of current medical literature to the pages of the *Glasgow Medical Journal*.

During the two years 1897-98, 1898-99, I was President of the Glasgow Medico-Chirurgical Society, and I have been Editor of the *Glasgow Hospital Reports* since the commencement of that work in 1898.

It is on the ground, therefore, of a very considerable experience of Medicine, both in its theoretical and in its practical aspects, and of the teaching of both, that I base my present application, in support of which I beg to submit the testimonials which follow.

I have the honour to be,

Your Lordship's most obedient Servant,

GEO. S. MIDDLETON.

8 WOODSIDE PLACE,
GLASGOW, 31st May, 1900.

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TESTIMONIALS.

[Reprinted with Sir William Gairdner's permission.]

From W. T. GAIRDNER, M.D., LL.D., F.R.C.P.E.; Regius Professor of Practice of Medicine in the University of Glasgow; Physician in Ordinary to Her Majesty the Queen in Scotland; Physician to the Western Infirmary, Glasgow.

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW,
1st July, 1891.

HAVING had, more than anyone else, I believe, occasion to know and appreciate DR. MIDDLETON, more especially in his qualifications as a teacher, during eleven years past, it would be extremely ungrateful on my part were I not to aid him, to the utmost I can, in his candidature for the Chair of Medicine in Aberdeen. And such aid can be given most effectually, perhaps, by the simple statement of the fact, that during these eleven years from 1880 onwards, all the tutorial work in my classes, both Systematic and Clinical, was for several years conducted by him alone, and latterly by him with another, and junior assistant. Dr. Middleton has thus acquired a thorough knowledge of the wants and the ways of medical students, and a large and fruitful influence over them in their studies. He has also very frequently lectured for me, when called away or when ill accidentally, often on the shortest notice, and always with acceptance.

I may say quite frankly that the loss of his services would be a considerable one to me, as I am now able with entire confidence to rely upon him as my substitute, whenever I am prevented in any way from acting personally, and the experience thus acquired by Dr. Middleton is such as must have fitted him in a high degree for an independent Professorship.

But, besides thus acting in a subordinate capacity, Dr. Middleton has largely engaged in original research, as is shown by the list of his publications, among which I would specially mention those on valvular heart disease, pseudo-hypertrophic paralysis, descending sclerosis, rheumatic subcutaneous nodules, etc., as being full of valuable information.

Dr. Middleton is a graduate in Arts of Aberdeen University, and is most emphatically a highly educated man, all round, and a most thoroughly trained and competent physician. He is well known to the whole medical profession here as such, and has always held a high position among us. I may be permitted specially to allude to his diligent work in the Dispensaries and in the Sick Children's Hospital, to his Monday demonstrations on Physical and Clinical Diagnosis, and to his numerous appearances before the various Medical Societies, as affording evidence, apart from his duties in the University, of his accomplishments as a physician and his high general culture.

In short, I do not know anyone in Scotland so well fitted out for immediate entrance on the teaching of the Art of Medicine as Dr. Middleton.

W. T. GAIRDNER.

From A. ERNEST SANSOM, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P., Physician to the London Hospital; Examiner in Medicine, Royal College of Physicians (Conjoint Board for England); etc.

84 HARLEY STREET, W.,
LONDON, May 4, 1900.

I AM anxious to add my testimony to that of others in favour of DR. GEORGE S. MIDDLETON, and to say that he is, in my opinion, highly qualified for the post of Professor of the Practice of Medicine in the University of Glasgow. The work that he has done in Pathology and in Clinical Medicine is of high value. I am glad to express my obligations to him as a worker in the field of Cardiac Pathology.

A. ERNEST SANSOM.

From W. B. CHEADLE, M.D. Cantab., F.R.C.P., Senior Physician to St. Mary's Hospital; Consulting Physician to the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children; late Censor and Examiner in Medicine, Royal College of Physicians, London, and Universities of Cambridge and Durham; etc.

19 PORTMAN STREET, PORTMAN SQUARE, W.
May 4, 1900.

I HAD the advantage of making the personal acquaintance of DR. MIDDLETON at the Meeting of the British Medical Association, held in Glasgow in 1888, and I worked in close association with him in the Section for Diseases of Children.

I formed a high opinion of Dr. Middleton's ability and of the value of his Medical and Pathological work, and this judgment has been heightened by his subsequent career.

Dr. Middleton's academic distinction, his training in association with Sir William Gairdner, and the excellent work he has done in Scientific Medicine, render him in my judgment highly fitted for the Chair of the Practice of Medicine in the University of Glasgow.

W. B. CHEADLE.

*From WILLIAM EWART, M.D. Cantab., F.R.C.P. Lond.,
Senior Physician to St. George's Hospital, and to
the Belgrave Hospital for Children; etc.*

33 CURZON STREET, MAYFAIR,
LONDON, 8th May, 1900.

I CANNOT presume to dwell upon DR. GEORGE S. MIDDLETON'S academical honours, upon his distinguished services as a teacher in the University of Glasgow, nor upon his many-sided connections with the Faculty of Medicine. All these, together with his intimate association in work with the eminent occupant of the Chair of Medicine are recommendations the importance of which cannot be realized anywhere so thoroughly as within the University. But I may be permitted to express my high opinion of the achievements by which Dr. Middleton has become widely known beyond the sphere of his Alma Mater. The services which he has rendered to Clinical Medicine are not limited to any single subject, but extend over a wide range of observation and research. Their value in my estimation is such as to add greatly to the other claims by which his many friends are prepared to support his candidature; and I am glad to state my belief that he would fill the Professorial Chair with great distinction and in a manner entirely worthy of the traditions of the great school of Medicine which he has so faithfully served.

WILLIAM EWART.

From SIR DYCE DUCKWORTH, M.D., LL.D. Edin., Fellow and Treasurer, Royal College of Physicians; Physician and Lecturer on Medicine at St. Bartholomew's Hospital; President of the Clinical Society; Hon. Physician to H.R.H. The Prince of Wales; Member of the General Medical Council; etc.

11 GRAFTON STREET, PICCADILLY,
LONDON, W., June 20, 1891.

DR. GEORGE S. MIDDLETON has for some years been most favourably known to me as one of the most eminent and rising of the younger Physicians in Glasgow.

I am therefore not surprised to learn that he aspires to a Professorship of Medicine.

His training and accomplishments appear to justify to the utmost his candidature for the vacant Chair of Practice of Physic at Aberdeen, and I feel sure that if Dr. Middleton be elected as successor to Professor Smith Shand, he will largely aid in maintaining the good fame of the Medical School of that ancient University.

Dr. Middleton will bring strength to any body to which he may be attached, and I think he will not fail to inspire his pupils with energy and enthusiasm.

It will afford me pleasure to hear of his appointment.

DYCE DUCKWORTH.

10th May, 1900.

Having already borne testimony in favour of a rival candidate for the vacant Chair of Medicine in Glasgow, I feel debarred from supporting Dr. Middleton's claims.

I may be permitted to say, however, that since I last wrote in his favour, he has fully maintained his reputation and given token of his great fitness to hold a Professorship.

DYCE DUCKWORTH.

From P. H. PYE-SMITH, M.D. Lond., F.R.C.P., F.R.S., Consulting Physician to Guy's Hospital; Member of the Senate of the University of London; Member of the General Medical Council; etc.

48 BROOK STREET,
LONDON, May 12, 1900.

DEAR DR. MIDDLETON,

I confess to thinking that no one who is a candidate for Sir William Gairdner's Chair should need testimonials other than their acknowledged position and works. But I have already acceded to the same request as yours, and therefore, without any comparison between their qualifications and yours, I may be allowed to say that from your published observations and your hospital experience, you would prove a worthy occupant for the important position which you seek.

I am,

Yours sincerely,

P. H. PYE-SMITH.

From HENRY ASHBY, M.D., Lond., F.R.C.P., Physician to the Manchester General Hospital for Children; Lecturer on Diseases of Children in Owen's College; etc.

13 ST. JOHN STREET,
MANCHESTER, 7th May, 1900.

I HAVE much pleasure in bearing testimony to the ability as physician and teacher of DR. G. S. MIDDLETON in support of his Candidature for the Chair of Practice of Medicine rendered vacant by the resignation of Sir William Gairdner.

I have had the pleasure of Dr. Middleton's acquaintance for some years and am familiar with his contributions to medical literature, and feel that his claims for the vacant post are very great.

He certainly stands high in the profession, and I believe would very worthily fill the most important Chair at Glasgow now vacant.

HENRY ASHBY.

From W. WHITLA, M.D., R.U.I., Physician to the Royal Hospital, Belfast, and Consulting Physician to the Ulster Hospital for Diseases of Women and Children; Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Queen's College, Belfast; etc.

8 COLLEGE SQUARE, N.,
BELFAST, May, 1900.

I HAVE much pleasure in testifying to the high position attained by DR. G. S. MIDDLETON as a clinical teacher of Medicine.

Trained under one of the greatest living physicians for many years, he has fully availed himself of his inestimable advantages, and has given ample proof to the world of his high literary attainments and aptitude for the most advanced research. His list of original communications is one of which any professor of Medicine might be justly proud, and at the same time is a list which does great credit to the University of Glasgow. It is a monument of accurate and conscientious work, patient clinical research, and brilliant reasoning, which alone proves his fitness for any Chair in Clinical Medicine. I have had the privilege, many years ago, of a personal knowledge of Dr. Middleton's bedside teaching, which greatly impressed me by the clearness, force, and genuine thoroughness with which he elucidated the difficult problems of disease in the hospital wards.

W. WHITLA.

